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Abstract of the Disclosure

An irrigation canal includes a plastic liner mechanically connected to the canal by fasteners extending through tabs located between the liner and the canal so the fasteners do not extend through the membrane providing leak protection. Adjacent the side walls of the canal, the tabs have a free end above the fixed end so that the tab is easily accessible during installation. The plastic is reinforced with a fiber mesh and has a tear strength above 100 pounds force. In the case of a concrete lined canal, a pilot hole is drilled in the concrete and a fastener is driven through the tab into the pilot hole. In the case of an earthen canal, anchors are embedded in the earth along the length of the canal and longitudinally extending members are connected between the anchors. The plastic liner is mechanically connected to the longitudinally extending members.